

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PHNOM 06011 051325Z

12

ACTION OPR-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 ORM-01 SR-02 DPW-01 SCA-01

SSO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02

SS-15 DODE-00 /056 W

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P 051220Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 179

INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 6011

E.O. 11652:

TAGS: AEMR, ICRC, CB, US

SUBJ: ICRC EVACUATES ONLY PART OF ITS STAFF FROM CAMBODIA

1. ICRC ONLY EVACUATED THE 18 TEAM MEMBERS FOR WHOM EMBASSY HAD TAKEN RESPONSIBILITY. FIFTEEN OTHER ICRC MEMBERS HAVE REMAINED IN CAMBODIA AS RESULT OF LAST MINUTE CHANGE OF MIND BY PASQUIER, DIRECTOR OF ICRC TEAM. PASQUIER CALLED ON ME APRIL 5 TO THANK ME FOR EVACUATION OF 18 ICRC MEMBERS AND EXPLAINED THAT HE HAD RECEIVED WORD LAST NIGHT THAT APPARENTLY HANOI HAD ACCEPTED ICRC AS ORGANIZATION WITH WHICH IT CAN DO BUSINESS. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, HE DECIDED TO KEEP 15 ICRC MEMBERS IN CAMBODIA IN HOPE THAT KC WOULD ALSO RESPECT THEIR INTERNATIONAL NEUTRAL STATUS.

2. PASQUIER AGREED THAT US EMBASSY HAD FULFILLED ITS RESPONSIBILITY FOR EVACUATION OF ICRC STAFF. I SAID THAT IF HE EVER CHANGED HIS MIND ABOUT EVACUATING REST OF HIS TEAM, EMBASSY STOOD READY TO HELP HIM AS LONG AS WE HAVE PLANES LANDING IN PHNOM PENH. THIS OFFER WAS NOT A COMMITMENT BUT MERELY WILLINGNESS TO HELP ICRC IF WE CAN. HE AGREED.
DEAN

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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